

From: [Jim Verboon](#)
To: [Jim Verboon](#); [Delta Plan Comments@Deltacouncil](mailto:DeltaPlanComments@Deltacouncil)
Subject: Re: comments + ideas
Date: Wednesday, March 30, 2011 1:28:55 PM

Chairman Eisenberg and members of the commission,

The following are comments I would like considered in forming the Delta plan. In requesting flow requirements for the Delta, in conjunction with the water resources control Board I suggest the following.

on normal and dry years, stop additional storage increases in late summer and early fall as the upstream diversions and storage causes pollution concentrations in the Delta especially in the San Joaquin Delta.

this water could be picked up by changing the point of diversion to the confluence of the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers. This is one way to enhance the flows of the Delta without taking "contracted" or "righted" water away.

cleaning up the wastewater discharges into the Delta and its tributaries should be paramount to fixing its health. With clean healthy water flowing into the Delta the cheapest and most efficient way to limit environmental damage would be to interconnect upstream from the state and federal pumps the Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers.

water storage from upstream reservoirs should be prorated to account for allocations to environmental flows as well as ultimate water delivery. All Upstream water diverters should be treated equally and the exporters should follow the same restrictions or contributions to the environment.

to pursue groundwater regulation prior to establishing reliable surface water delivery amount is premature. The reduction of surface water deliveries has and will always increase groundwater overdraft. There needs to be a balance established between surface water deliveries and groundwater extractions.

As I stated at the last meeting the state and federal contractors take a bad rap as they did not design, build, or operate the system. They agreed and signed to collateralize contracts to take delivery of water from the infrastructure they are paying for. The responsibility for Delta degradation lies with the state and federal agencies mismanagement of it. This should not absolve the contractors from

financial commitments in formulating a Delta fix, but they do not deserve to have their water severely reduced or denied to them.

As you know the conglomeration of stressors in the Delta will be difficult to sort out. The introduction of non-native species whether on purpose or by accident must be addressed if the endangered species act is to continually be applied on a species by species basis picking winners and losers.

I will close by stating that the export pumps have been and should be limited by contract from simply taking more water. By contrast the upstream diverters have been held to a different standard. That is they have continually increased their consumption of water from the Delta. Without addressing reasonable flow standards from these reservoirs as well as cleaning up the wastewater discharges, we will fail in our endeavors to have a healthy Delta.

Thank you once again for your indulgence.

With respect Jim

----- Original Message -----

From: [Jim Verboon](#)

To: deltaplancomment@deltacouncil.ca.gov

Cc: yboonfrms@sti.net

Sent: Wednesday, March 16, 2011 12:51 PM

Subject: comments + ideas

Mister Chairman and members of the commission,

It was my pleasure to address you at your last meeting in Clarksburg. I will reiterate in writing a good portion of my comments. I started off saying it appeared most of the presenters before you wanted other agencies and areas to give up water and provide finances for the reparations of the Delta. We know that simply cannot be the case.

The next thing I talked about was the value of water. Water in the northern most part of the state is plentiful and therefore of less value than that which finds its way to the southern border. Between the reductions of deliverable stored water caused by problems in the Delta and the repayment of infrastructure costs this will always be true.

What I have seen lost in the conversation in the past is the value of the cleanest and coldest water diverted from the Delta. This water is diverted and pipelined under and around the Delta from Comanche, Pardee and Hetch Hetchy Reservoirs. As a tool for pursuing the coequal goals, money might be used as an equalizer for the reduction of the highest quality water from the ecosystem. Adequate time should be spent to price water quality reasonably. I would not ask directly for this

water, as its quality could not be replaced; however the difference in value might be equalized in monetary contribution.

Another avenue might be to change the point of diversion to the Sherman Island area. This would allow the Delta to utilize the water for its ecosystem without depriving those areas of receiving their water.

There is no question the reverse or cross channel flows are a detriment to the salmon and potentially the smelt. It might be noteworthy to acknowledge the farmers and urban contractors south of the Delta did not design the projects; they just signed contracts to take delivery of developed water and repay the infrastructure cost.

The project designers, the state and federal governments, did not adequately address the flow changes the operations created. These flow changes have been exacerbated by additional water diversions from the Tuolumne, Mokelumne and other San Joaquin River diversions. All these diversions own a portion of the responsibility for degradation of the Delta. All should make contributions to its restoration.

I thank you for the opportunity for this input and for all the time, energy and frustration you are enduring in this process. Jim